

VISIT...

LANZAROTE
Caliente.COM

BLACK KNIGHT! DEFENDERS! SILVER SURFER!

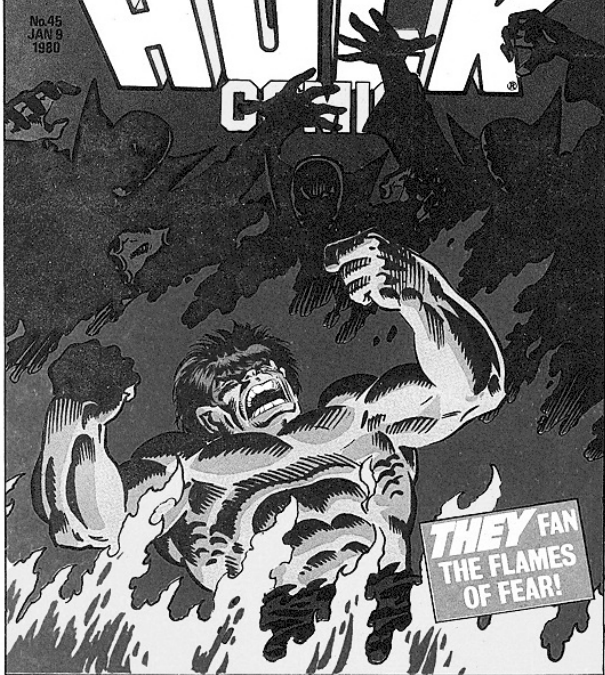
EVERY THURSDAY
10p

Stan Lee
presents

No.45
JAN 9
1980

HULK

COMICS



**THEY FAN
THE FLAMES
OF FEAR!**

DELIVERED BY THE MYSTERIOUS GROUP CALLED THEY!

THE INCREDIBLE HULK



VICTIM OF GAMMA RADIATION
BRUCE BANNER NOW FINDS
HIMSELF TRANSFORMED IN TIMES
OF STRESS INTO THE MOST POWERFUL
CREATURE EVER TO WALK THE
EARTH!

HUNK! OLD MAN SAID THAT
HULK IS SUPPOSED TO SAVE
THIS CITY! BUT HULK IS
NOT FOOLISH! THIS CITY
IS JUST ANOTHER TRAP
MADE BY HULK'S ENEMIES!

OLD MAN GAVE
HIMSELF AWAY
WHEN HE SAID
THE CITY
PRESTO WERE
"THEY!"



© LAST ISSUE -- DEC



GOLDBLUM KNOWS THIS
...THEY... SOMEHOW.

SO IF GOLDBLUM
TRICKED HULK, THEN
"THEY" WILL TRY TO
TRICK HULK, TOO. BUT
HULK WILL BE READY
FOR THEM... HULK
WILL SMASH "THEY"!

HULK COMIC Number 45

Published weekly by Marvel Comics Ltd., Jacfin House, 205-211 Kentish Town Road, London NW5. All characters appearing in this comic, unless otherwise specified, are trademarks and trademarks of Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corp. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions herein with those of any living or dead persons or institutions is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Not to be sold in the USA or Canada. Copyright © Marvel Comics Ltd., 1979. Display advertising, contact: Morrison Brown, Media Selling Services, 218A High Street, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3JD, Guildford (0443) 37033.



HIGH IN A REMOTE SECTION OF
THE ANDER MOUNTAINS IS A
FORGOTTEN LAND OF LEGENDARY
REPUTATION--HIDDEN BENEATH A
SIBYRICAL OF CONCEALING CLOUDS
IN AN ALL-BUT-UNACCESSIBLE
VALLEY.

THE FAMOUS ENGLISH COURIER,
SIR WALTER RALPHS, ALMOST
STUMBLED ACROSS IT DURING HIS
TOUR OF THE NEW WORLD... AFTER
HIS DEATH IT WAS A SETTING IN
HIS CLASSIC WORK, "THEY"...

...AND IT IS TO THIS MYSTIC
LAND THAT THE INCREDIBLE
HULK AND THE NOW-CONQUERED
GOLDBLUM HAVE BEEN DELIVERED
BY THE MYSTERIOUS NAME-
RELATIONS OF THE GROUP
CALLED "THEY!"

BEHOLD, GREAT HULK,
THE CITY OF MY BIRTH.
THAT PLACE YOUR WORLD
WOULD CALL EL DORADO!

LET US
DESCEND.

STERN & BUDGETA/GINNOT

DOWN THE ANCIENT ROADWAY
THE GREEN BENEATH FOLLOWS
HIS ADULTER CLASH, HIS SMILE
AND LOST IN THE DARK
THOUGHTS...



-- UNTIL HE
BECOMES
AWARE OF
THE
CITY'S
POPULACE...

LOOK! THE
GREEN ONE
COMES, JUST
AS THEY
SAID!

THE WORD PASSES QUICKLY, AND SOON
THE MULTITUDES FLOOD INTO THE CITY
STREETS AND PLAZAS, SHOUTING PRAISE
AND GREETINGS...



YOU SEE,
HULK? THE
CROWD HAS
BEEN EXPECTED
FOR MANY DAYS.



YOU ARE THE ANSWER
TO THESE PEOPLE'S
DREAMS... FOR YOU ARE
DESTINED TO BE THEIR
SALVATION!

BAH! HULK IS
NO SALVATION...
HULK IS HULK.
HULK JUST WANTS
TO MEET THEM...
"THEY!"

AS YOU
WISH,
FOLLOW ME.

Edited & designed by Dez Skinn Publisher: Stan Lee





ALL RIGHT, HULK IS HUNGRY. HULK WILL COME.



BUT IF HULK DOESN'T MEET THEM SOON... HULK WILL GO LOOKING FOR THEM!



AND AS TULAN AND HIS ANGRY CHARGE CROSS THE PLAZA, THE GOV'T RALLY PARTS, SCRAMING AFTER THEIR RELUCTANT VISITOR IN HURRY.



HUNDREDS OF MILES TO THE NORTH--AT SAN PEDRO'S BAY AREA--THE HULK ALSO WINGS HEAVILY ON THE WINGS OF AT LEAST TWO INDIVIDUALS...



...ONE, THE HEAD OF BASE SECURITY... THE OTHER, AN AGENT OF THE SUPREME HIGH COMMANDERS INTERNATIONAL SPYBAGS LAW-ENFORCEMENT DIVISION.

AND THERE'S BEEN NO SIGN OF THE HULK AT ALL, QUARTER-MAIN?

NONE AT ALL, CAP'Y! EVIDENTLY, THIS SOLIDLY CHARACTER SUCKED HIM UP WITH SOMETHING ASIN TO A SHIELD VORTER BEAN AND SHOT OFF INTO ORBIT!

SO RIGHT NOW WE'RE AT A LOSS AS TO--EH? WHAT THE DEVIL--?



SHROOOW

LOOKS LIKE SOME FLYING'S SHOWING OFF IN ONE OF THOSE NEW DELTA-WING FIGHTERS.



SHOWING OFF IS RIGHT! THOSE THINGS AREN'T MUCH MORE THAN AN ENGINE AND A COCKPIT!

SAY THERE, FELLA-- THAT WAS A PRETTY SWEET PRIZE OF FLYIN'!



I THOUGHT SO MYSELF, MR. G-- ONLY WHEN I'D DONE IT! BUT THE ROSES REALLY HAVE TO GO TO MY PRISONER HERE FOR THAT LANDS!



WELL, IN THAT CASE, MY CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU...

I'LL BE-- THE AIR-BOAT RETURNING TO THE FOLD!

BETTY? IS THAT YOU?



WELL, I'M NOT ROBERT TURNER! OH, DON'T LOOK SO SURPRISED, CLAY! A GIRL DOESN'T GROW UP IN THE AIR FORCE WITHOUT LEARNING A LITTLE ABOUT PLANES!

HELLO, CAPTAIN BOWMAN!

HWA, SQUIRT!

I CAN'T GET OVER THE CHANGE... YOU LOOK GREAT!

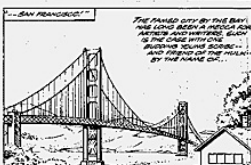


THAT'S ABOUT THE MOST LEFT-HANDED COMPLIMENT I'VE EVER RECEIVED, BUT THANKS!

NOW, HOW ABOUT HELPING A LADY DOWN?

CLAYTON "LEFTY" CLUSTER-MAN AT YOUR SERVICE, WAG. TULAN!

WELL, IT'S NOT HIS TALBOT ANYMORE, CLAY. YOU SEE...



**DON'T MISS
NEXT WEEK'S
ACTION-
PACKED
EPISODE!**

MERLYN LEADS THE QUEST FOR ARTHUR'S TOMB!

THE BLACK KNIGHT

THE BLACK KNIGHT'S QUEST HAS TAKEN A DRAMATIC TURN... FOR NOW HIS MASTER, MERLYN THE MAGUS, IS DETERMINED TO FIND THE TOMB OF KING ARTHUR, AS DESCRIBED TO HIM BY THE HERO, CAPTAIN BRITAIN...



BUT WHERE DO WE BEGIN? THE ISLAND WE SEEK COULD BE ALMOST ANYWHERE WITHIN THE THREE REALMS...



ONE THING I'M SURE OF... IT WAS NOT AN ISLAND OF EARTH! BECAUSE I SPENT MONTHS GAZING OUT TO SEA...



THE ISLAND IS HERE--IN OTHERWORLD--TO STAKE MY LIFE ON IT!



YOU MAY HAVE TO DO JUST THAT BEFORE OUR TASK IS OVER! FOR OTHERWORLD IS INDEED BOUNDED BY AN OCEAN--BEYOND THE DISTANT MOUNTAINS...



BETWEEN US AND OUR DESTINATION LIES THE FORTRESS AT CARMELOT--ONCE THE RESIDENCE OF ARTHUR AND HIS WARRIORS...



WE SHALL MAKE A HALT THERE AND SEE WHAT FATE AWAITS US... FOR I FEAR OUR PASSAGE HAS NOT GONE UNNOTICED!



MERLYN'S FEARS WERE WELL-FOUNDED--FOR IN THE CITADEL OF NECROMON, LORD OF THE NETHERGODS...



THE EYE OF NECROS SEES ALL!

SPANNING THE TIMELESS GULFS OF SPACE--SEEING EVEN INTO THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF MEN!





BUT I HAVE SEEN
ENOUGH! THESE MORTALS
HAVE BEEN AS THORNS IN
MY FLESH-- THEY HAVE
HARASSED MY FORCES--
THWARTED MY PLANS--

AND NOW
INCUR
MY
WRATH!

AS YOU
WISH,
LORD...



ONCE I HAD
SIX TRUSTED ADEES
WHO WALKED
THROUGH HELL
AT MY BIDDING!
WHAT HAS BECOME
OF THEM?

GIVE ME
NINE OF
THE SIX!

COERMAC, THE
SWORD-MASTER,
WANDERS AIMLESSLY
IN DEFEAT, MAIMED
BY EXCALIBUR!

MOORED, THE
LOSER-MASTER, LIES
IN DARKNESS BENEATH
THE CASTLE, BROKEN
BY HIS OWN SPELL...

SCARTAC, THE
WARLORD, AND HIS
LIEUTENANT, BALOE,
PREPARE YOUR FORCES
FOR THE GREAT
BATTLE...



GUREIN, THE LORD OF STONES, HOLDS
TO HIS MOUNTAIN FASTNESS-- AND
AWAITS YOUR COMMAND...

AND KARADOC,
THE DRAGON-MASTER,
REMAINS WITHIN
THE CITADEL...

KARADOC!
SUMMON HIM
AT ONCE!!



THE HOUR OF
DECISION IS
UPON ME--
THE NEED FOR
SWIFT ACTION
IS AT HAND!

MERLIN AND HIS
INTERLOPERS
MUST SUFFER
RETRIBUTION.
SOON THEY WILL
HEAR THEIR
DOOM-- Borne
ALONG ON THE
WINGS OF
DRAGONS!!

YOU SENT
FOR ME,
LORD...



KARADOC!
I HAVE
NEED OF
YOU...

WHERE ARE
THOSE IN YOUR
CHARGE?
ARE THEY NEAR?



AS IF IN ANSWER TO THE
SOUTHERN LORD'S QUESTION,
A GREAT SHADOW PEGGED
OVERHEAD, ACCOMPANIED
BY THE BEATING OF WINGS
AND THE CREAK OF GREAT
SCLER...

I SHOULD
HAVE KNOWN! FOR
WHERE KARADOC
WALKS, THERE YOU
WILL FIND
ASHTOROTH...
SARAFAND...
AND THE MIGHTY
KHARAD DUK!!



HEARING THEIR NAMES UTTERED,
THE THREE GREAT CREATURES
SETTLED ON THE CITADEL...

LIKE THREE IMPOSSIBLY HUGE
AND DIABOLICAL BIRDS OF
PREY...

WHILE FAR AWAY IN
OTHERWORLD, UNAWARE OF
THE AWESOME FORCES
GATHERING TO OPPOSE THEM,
OUR HEROES PLANNED THEIR
STRATEGY---



WE MUST MAKE
ALL HASTE TO
CAMELOT! YOU
WILL RIDE AHEAD
OF US AND SCOUT
THE WAY---



WHILE WE
MUST ONCE AGAIN
TAKE TO ANCIENT
PATHS-- FOR THE
DANGERS OF
OTHERWORLD ARE
GREATER THAN
THOSE OF
EARTH--

SO FOLLOW
ME CLOSELY...
AND BE
WARY!

AH, TO BE
BACK IN ACTION
AGAIN AFTER DAYS
OF INACTIVITY!



COME,
VALIANT--
THE OPEN
SKIES OF
OTHERWORLD
WELCOME
US!



PERHAPS SOME
GREAT FOE
LIES WAITING
AHEAD-- AND
THE SOUND OF
EXCALIBUR
WILL RING IN
OTHERWORLD
ONCE MORE!

WITH THOSE WORDS, THE BLACK KNIGHT SOARED AWAY...
LITTLE KNOWING THE FATE THAT LAY IN STORE ---



THAT WHICH THE
EYE OF NECRO
HAS SEEN--IT
MAY ALSO
RECALL...

HEAR ME,
GREAT ASHTOROTH
--YOUR LORD NECROMON
HAS A MISSION
FOR YOU!



BEHOLD THEN THE IMAGE
OF YOUR GUARDY-- MERLYN'S
CHAMPION, THE BLACK
KNIGHT!



BRING ME HIS
CHARGED REMAINS
--AND THE CURSE
OF HIS ACCURSED
MOUNT--

AND YOUR REWARD
WILL BE GREAT--
AS BEFITTING A
LOYAL SERVANT
OF NECROMON!



ASHTOROTH GAVE VOICE--
IN THE RASPING TONES
OF ANCIENT DRAGON
SPEECH ---

MANY TIMES MY
KINDRED HAVE FOUGHT
WITH MEN ---

AND MANY ARE
THEIR BONES THAT
LIE BLEACHING ON
THE BLACKENED
PLAINS OF
OTHERWORLD--



YET I REMAIN
UNDAUNTED!
FOR I AM ASHTOROTH,
SCOURGE
OF MEN---

I LEAVE YOU
WITH MY PROMISE
AND MY PLEDGE---
THIS LITTLE
KNIGHT WILL
DIE!!

TO BE CONTINUED.

NEXT ISSUE: THE BLACK KNIGHT IN MORTAL COMBAT WITH ASHTOROTH!

ANOTHER
MARVEL
MASTERPIECE
**NOW
ON
SALE!**



NOW,
MORE
THAN
EVER,
BRITAIN'S
GREATEST!

DOCTOR WHO WEEKLY NUMBER 12



**30 TALKING
DALEKS TO BE
WON!**

THREE GREAT COMIC STRIPS!
FACT-PACKED PHOTO-FEATURES!
PHOTO FILE PIN-UP!
AND MUCH MORE!



ON SALE NOW!

ANT-MAN AND WASP FACE DANGER TOGETHER!

ANT-MAN!

JANET VAN DYNE HAD TURNED INTO A KILLER WASP, INTENT ON DESTROYING ANT-MAN... BUT WITH THE AID OF HIS SPECIAL HELMET, ANT-MAN REVERSED THE PROCESS... UNTIL...







**HE'S BACK! RETURNING TO THE PAGES OF
SPECTACULAR SPIDERMAN WEEKLY...**

**THE ADVENTURES OF
THE INVINCIBLE**

IRON MAN

A black and white comic book illustration of Iron Man. He is standing in a heroic pose with his arms raised, holding two large, three-dimensional pieces of the word 'IRON MAN'. The background is filled with dynamic, radiating lines and splatters, suggesting a powerful impact or explosion. Iron Man's suit is detailed with rivets and mechanical components. He has a determined expression on his face.

**THE
ARMoured
AVenger
IN HIS OWN
WEEKLY
STORY!**

**DON'T
MISS A
SECOND
OF IT!**

**IRON MAN POWER!
IRON MAN DRAMA!
IRON MAN ACTION!**

**AND DON'T
FORGET--OL'
SHELLHEAD
ALSO
APPEARS
MONTHLY WITH
THE
AVENGERS
IN MARVEL
SUPERHEROES
!!!**

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UNCANNY...



LEE + J. BUSCEMA / S. BUSCEMA





--TO SET FREE THE MYSTIC ESSENCE, THE ETHERAL EGG--

--OF LOOK, GOD OF EVIL!



NOW, THIS UNFETTERED BY SPACE OR TIME...

I SHALL ROAM THE ENDLESS COSMOS--

NOW LET THE MIGHTIEST OF ALL APPEAR BEFORE ME--

I BEHOLD THE HULK!

BUT, THOUGH IN BUTE STRENGTH HE SEEMS BOUND-LESS--

HE IS LACKING, IN SKILL--

HE WILL NOT DO!

--UNTIL MY QUEST BE DONE!



WHAT OF HIM WHO IS CALLED-- THE THING?

GROTESQUE THOUGH HE BE-- STILL HE IS HUMAN!

AND SURELY NO MORTAL MAY OPPOSE MIGHTY THOR!



HERCULES!! SON OF ZEUS!!

WOULD THAT THY MIGHT WERE MINE TO ENLIST--

BUT, NOT EVEN LOYAL WOULD BRAVE THE WRATH OF OLYMPUS ASSEMBLED!



I MUST SEARCH ELSEWHERE!

BUT WAIT! WHAT DOETH LOKI NOW BEHOLD?

WHAT GLISTENING OBJECT HURTLES THRU YON SKY?



IT'S A MAN FORM!!

BUT NE'ER BEFORE HAVE LOKI EYES BEHELD HIS LIKE!



AGAIN AND AGAIN, AS THOUGH BY MADNESS BESET--

HE DOETH MURDER HIMSELF 'GAINST AN UNSEEN BARRIER!

THOUGH LESS THAN GODLING, HIS POWER SURPASSES THAT OF A MORTAL!

HATH LOKI THUS FOUND HIM WHO SHALL SLAY THE THUNDER GOD?



I MUST KNOW MORE!

I MUST LAY BARE HIS PAST-- WITH A SPELL, TEMPORAL!

FIRST, FROM WHENCE HATH HE OBTAINED HIS POWERS??



AMH! IT
ALL GROWS
CLEAR!
TO SEE HIS
WORLD, HE
HUNGERS
HIMSELF
AS
HERALD TO
THE PLANET
RAVISING
GALACTUS!

NOW
NOBLE!
NOW
VALIANT!
HOW
VALUABLE
SOMEONE
WITNESS!



THAT
GALACTUS
WILL
TRANSFORMED
MORNING RABBIT
INTO--THE
MIND
SURFER!

AND THOUGH
HALL GAINING
RARE POWER
COSMIC--



THAT WHICH
HE CHERISHED
MOST OF ALL--
WAS TO BE
LOVED
DENIED HIM!!



BUT, STAY! HE HATH
SAILED AWAY, AGAINST
HIS MASTER!

THEN THAT IS
WHY GALACTUS
HATH
IMPRISONED
HIM UPON THE
PLANET GARTH!



I
HAVE
SEEN
ENOW!

I NEED BUT
WISDOM TO
RETURN HIM
TO HIS LOVED
ONE, AND HE
WILL DO MY
BIDDING!



BUT--WHAT
IS THIS
I SEE--??

BUT WHERE
MERPHISTO
FALLS--
THERE SHALL
CUNNING
GAIN RIND
SUCCESS!

ANOTHER
DID MIM
TEMPT IN
SELF-
SAME
MANNER--



LET ME NOW
REDEEM MY
GODLY
BOON!



OH! BOTH
KNOX WHAT
NOW MUST
NEEDS BE
DONE!

ONLY BY CROSS
DECEPTION
SHALL I WIN THE
PRIZE!

ONLY BY CRESS
DECEIT SHALL HIM
WHO HAS BEEN
HERALD BECOME
SLY LONELY FOOL!



BUT EVEN AS THE
GOD OF EVIL
DRAWS EVER
NEARER--

BEGONE,
THOU
CHURLISH
LOW!



NEER
AGAIN
SWALT
THE
LIKES
OF
ZOMBIE
MAKE
SPORT
OF
ROTUND
HOLSTAGG!

DASHING
LANDRAIL
-THOU
SHOULDST
NOT HAVE
AIDED
ME!
WAS
MINE
GUILT
ALONE!

NOR THEE,
NOR AGON--
FOR
TRULY THE
BATTLE
WAS
MINE
GUILT
ALONE!

AID THEE,
HOLSTAGG!
THOU
KANDRA'S
SING
AND
HOGGON'S
RACE
THAT PUT
VON
KAVES
TO ROUT!

THOU
DIDST
NO MORE
THAN
GUIDE
HIDE!

--NO
MEAN
FOR ONE
OF GARTH!

FORGOTTEN
I DO BUT
FEAR TO
LOSE MY
AWESOME
STRENGTH



LET US AWAY!
DO THY ASSAIL
MINE EARS!

WHILEST THEY
DEPART, VALANT
HOLSTAGG SHALT
GUARD YON
SLEEPING GAPS!

SLUBBROUS
ONE--WE
KILLED NO
MORE!



AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN ANOTHER WORLD--FURTHER FROM ASGARD THAN THE MIND CAN IMAGINE--YET EVER AS CLOSE AS LOKI'S TEMPORAL SPELL--

AMONGST THE MIGHTIEST--THE MOST SUPPOSEDLY SAVAGE OF ALL EARTH'S CREATURES--I SIT IN PEACE--I DWELL IN SAFETY!

FOR FOOD HAS BEEN PLENTIFUL--AND NO LONGER DO I HUNGER!



UNLIKE THE MANKIND--WHO CALL YOU BEAST--THERE IS NO VIOLENCE IN YOUR HEART!

NO HINT OF AVARICE--NO SMOLDERING HATE!

--IS A STRANGER TO PEACE--A PRISONER, CAUGHT IN THE WEB OF HIS OWN NAMELESS FEARS!



YET MAN, WHO HAS WON DOMINION OVER ALL THIS WORLD--



BUT NO LONGER SHALL THE SILVER SURFER BE A PART OF MAN'S INSANITY!

LET HUMANITY DO WHAT IT WILL--

AND HERE STAND I--HOMELSSLY TRAPPED IN A WORLD OF MADNESS!

WHERE REASON IS SHUNNED WHILE VIOLENCE PREVAILS!



AS FOR ME, I SHALL REMAIN AMONGST THE BEASTS!

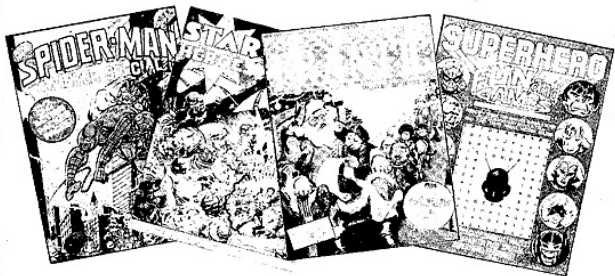


SILVER SURFER! I HAVE FOUND THEE AT LAST!

WHO CALLED?

NEXT WEEK: A DEVASTATING CONFRONTATION WITH LOKI!

HAVE A HAPPY CHRISTMAS... WITH MARVEL'S WINTER SPECIALS!



SPIDER-MAN

You raved over the Spidey Summer Special. . . but just wait till you see what we've cooked up this winter for old web-head! A fantastic 33 page epic tale of the Watcher, who shows us 3 alternative worlds - where someone else became Spider-Man! And just look who the 3 were who took the radioactive spider bite. . . JJJ's son John Jameson, Betty Brant and Flash Thompson! Also inside: A look back at Britain's Spidey comic over the last 6 years - its stars and its changes, how Stan & Johnny Romita produce the Spidey Newspaper Strip, how Stan and Steve Ditko created Spider-Man, plans of Peter Parker's pad, his office and university grounds, plus more, more more!! 52 huge pages!

Only 40p!

FRANTIC

You pleaded for more. . . you begged for more! You must be mad, or crazy, or even - - FRANTIC! Yes, we've dished up a second helping of Marvel's madcap mag of hectic humour. This time around featuring our look at: Battlestar Galactica, The Silver Surfer, Fantasy Island, The Waltons, Santa Claus, plus the inimitable HOWARD THE DUCK! 52 average size pages!

A steal at 40p!

STAR HEROES

When we had to pull The Micronauts out of Star Wars Weekly there was such a hie and cry, we started coming into the office in disguise. . . in fear of our lives! Well, they're back! In the pages of our latest 'pilot' project, Star Heroes. And just look at the company they're keeping. . . none other than the heroes and villains of BATTLESTAR GALACTICA! What more could any science-fiction loving Marvelite ask for? 52 spaced-out pages

Only 40p!

SUPERHERO FUN AND GAMES

Everyone seems puzzle-crazy these days! But rather than mix puzzles in with our regular mags, we've put together a whole cover to cover package of them! And, better yet, they're all based around your fun-loving favourite Marvel superheroes! Test your knowledge of the mighty Marvel universe of characters as you try to beat Howard the Duck, Spidey, Iron Man, Ms Marvel, Iron Fist, Ka-Zar, and everyone! Plus special feature pages on how to draw Hulk, Spidey and a brand new character is introduced. . . PUZZLEMASTER! 36 befuddling pages

Only 25p!

... GRAB THEM WHILE THEY'RE AROUND, TIGERS!

THEY'RE ALL ON SALE NOW! DON'T MISS 'EM!

A STUNNING SHOCK IN STORE FOR...

THE DEFENDERS

THE DEFENDERS HAVE FOUGHT OFF THE THREAT OF THE RED RATH, WHO THEY DISCOVER TO BE THE MISSING DR. STRANGE. NOW THEY RE-GROUP TO ASSESS THE DAMAGE...



UK: LOOK, VAL... I WANNA APOLOGIZE FOR--

FOR NOTHING LIKE YOU WERE NOT IN CONTROL OF YOUR ACTIONS.



NIGHTMARE, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

FINE, TANIA. HOW ABOUT HELPING ME UP?

CERTAINLY, CONRADE.



GIRL MADE HULK MAD--

--BUT HULK IS NOT MAD ANY MORE

WHEN! GLAD TO HEAR TO GREENSKIN!



STEPHEN, I RESOLVE THAT YOU ARE FREE--

--STILL, I DO NOT CONSIDER HOW THE JEWEL COULD GAIN CONTROL OF ONE OF YOUR MYSTICAL POWERS

A PRACTITIONER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS, MY DARLING MUST EVER KEEP HIS MIND OPEN TO ALL PATHS OF ENLIGHTENMENT.



ON THIS OCCASION, THAT OPENNESS MADE ME SUSCEPTIBLE TO SUDDEN PSYCHIC INFLUENCE...

--ALL THE MORE SO SINCE THE JEWEL WAS NOT SEEMINGLY MALEVOLENT IN ITS DESIRES.



SEVERAL DAYS LATER, THE DEFENDERS GATHER IN THE INNER SANCTUM OF DR. STRANGE'S TOWN HOUSE, SUMMONED BY THE MYSTIC HIMSELF...

WHAT'S WRONG, DOC? YOU'VE BEEN AWAY AROUND EVER SINCE WE GOT BACK. IF IT'S THE DAMAGE TO YOUR PLACE--

HULK IS SORRY HE HURT MAGICIAN'S HOUSE...

NO, HULK, IT WASN'T THAT.



I REALIZE YOUR DAMAGE WAS CAUSED ONLY BY CONCERN FOR MY WELL BEING.

NO, THE MATTER WHICH OCCUPIES MY THOUGHTS IS OF A MORE PERSONAL NATURE.

FOR, THOUGH IT GRIEVES ME TO DO SO, I FEAR I MUST LEAVE THE DEFENDERS.



BUT WHY, DOC? ARE YOU CRAZY? YOU CAN'T QUIT ON US NOW! YOU CAN'T!!





A FEW FINAL WORDS ARE EXCHANGED BETWEEN DR. STRANGE AND A BECALMED HULK--AND THEN THE ANTI-SOUL-ASSAULTING DEFENDERS TO TAKE LEAVE OF STRANGE'S SANCTUM...



WOW! I WONDER WHAT I'VE GOTTEN MYSELF INTO! THESE SUPER FOLKS ARE JUST AS WEIRD AS THE AVENGERS--BUT I LOVE IT!

HULK IS NOT REALLY MAD AT BIRD-NOSE ANY MORE--

--AS LONG AS BIRD-NOSE DOESN'T SAY BAD THINGS ABOUT MAGICIAN!

I GOTTA TELL YA BEFORE I GO, DOC--THIS IS SOME PAD YA GOT HERE! IT SURE BEATS MY STINKIN' RAT-HOLE ON 42ND STREET!

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME HERE AS A GUEST, LUKE!

WHEN I'M GLAD TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT, BIG BUDDY!



...FAREWELL, MY FRIENDS!



WE SHALL MISS YOU DR. BELINSKY.

MEANWHILE, MINUS DR. STRANGE, THE RED GUARDIAN AND POWER MAN, THE MUCH-DIMINISHED DEFENDERS SCAM NORTHWARD OVER MANHATTAN...



YAHOO! THIS IS FUN! GIDDY-UP, MORSEY!

THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEFENDERS NOW RESTS ON MY SHOULDERS.

WILL I BE ABLE TO HANDLE IT?

HELLCAT! PLEASE REFRAIN FROM CLAWING ARAGORN'S PLANKS, LEST WE BOTH FIND OURSELVES ABANDONED IN MIDFLIGHT BY AN ANGRY STEED!



THEY KEEP TO THE LATE AFTERNOON, SAY UNTIL CITY-GIVES WAY TO COUNTRYSIDE BENEATH THEM--AND STILL THEY SOAR, UNTIL...

THIS IS THE PLACE, FOLKS!



CRIPES! THIS SET-UP IS SO STANK THAT IT PUTS AVENGERS' MANSION TO SHAME!

NOW HULK REMEMBERS THIS PLACE! HULK RATES CITY--LIKES IT HERE WHERE IT IS GREEN AND QUIET!

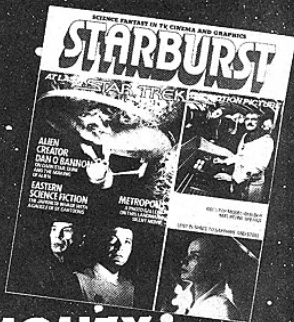
CIMON INFIDE AND I'LL SHOW YOU THE WHOLE SNEBANG!



DO NOT BE IN SUCH A HURRY KYLE. ARAGORN SEEMS TO SHARE HULK'S SENTIMENTS AND TO BE TRULY CONTENT HERE IN THE COUNTRY.

I THINK SHE'S TRYING TO SAY IT'S BEEN A ROUGH DAY...AND WE OUGHT TO UNWIND!

WHAT LIES IN WAIT FOR THE DEFENDERS? READ ON NEXT WEEK!



THE MIGHTY MARVEL REVOLUTION MOVES ON!



EACH AND EVERY MONTH!